

Short Bio for Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Carleton W. Birch

Chaplain Birch enlisted the Army in 1982 in the Field Artillery. In 1983, he entered Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was commissioned a second lieutenant. He served as a Field Artillery Officer for 2nd Armored Division (Forward) in Germany from 1984-1987.

He left the Army in 1987 to study for the ministry and earned a Master of Divinity Degree in 1990. After ordination and serving in a local church, Chaplain Birch returned to active duty in Schweinfurt, Germany, from 1993-1996. From 1996-2000, Chaplain Birch served at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He went on to study Marriage and Family Counseling at the US Army Family Life Training Center in Fort Benning, GA and Columbus State University.

While serving in Korea from 2001-2005, he established a Chaplain Family Life Center and was the Brigade Chaplain for the 17th Aviation Brigade.

After Korea, he served as the 10th Mountain Deputy Division Chaplain at Fort Drum, New York and deployed to Afghanistan. Upon return, he served as the Deputy Installation Chaplain for Fort Drum and arrived at the Office of the Chief of Chaplains in July of this year.

Chaplain Birch is married to Christina and has four children. He is ordained and endorsed for active duty ministry by the Baptist General Conference.